

HazMat Newsletter

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☐ ☐ HazMat Matters

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HOW TO PREPARE FOR A HAZMAT INSPECTION:

1. ☐ Make sure you have the following posted:
 - a. ☐ Business License,
 - b. ☐ Certificate of Occupancy,
 - c. ☐ City Permit (if applicable) &
 - d. ☐ OSHA required postings.
2. ☐ Have your Business Emergency Plan (BEP) Ready for inspection & include:
 - a. ☐ Emergency telephone numbers,
 - b. ☐ Site map with chemical storage locations & legend,
 - c. ☐ Chemical inventory,
 - d. ☐ Material Safety Data Sheets,
 - e. ☐ Hazardous waste records (if applicable) &
 - f. ☐ Employee training records.
3. ☐ Make sure all emergency equipment (i.e. eyewashes, safety showers, first aid kits, etc. are accessible (not blocked by storage or other equipment).
4. ☐ Check that your fire extinguishers have been serviced within the last year.
5. ☐ Make sure that your exits are marked, lighted, and unobstructed.
6. ☐ Make sure your hazardous materials are stored in a manner that leaks cannot reach storm drains. Use secondary containment or spill control methods for all hazardous materials.
7. ☐ Make sure that the Fire Department has a way to access your property when you or your employees are not there in the event of an emergency (Knox Box or BEP Box & key).
8. ☐ Make sure there are no hazards due to electrical faults, misuse of extension cords when permanent wiring is needed, open panelboards, exposed electrical wiring or obstructions to panels or emergency shut-offs.
9. ☐ Make sure that no fire exits are locked or blocked.



HAZMAT SPILLS – CALL 911

SPILL CONTAINMENT FOR HAZARDOUS MATERIALS



The Huntington Beach Fire Code specifies that rooms, buildings or areas used for the storage of hazardous material liquids in individual vessels having a capacity that exceeds 55 gallons or an aggregate capacity exceeding 1,000 gallons shall be provided with spill control to prevent the flow of hazardous liquids to adjoining areas.

Secondary containment calculations for hazardous materials that are stored outdoors must be made to account for a possible spill from the largest single container plus 24 hours of rainfall as determined by a 25-year storm. Containment for hazardous materials stored indoors in buildings with sprinklers must allow for a spill from the largest container and include consideration for a sprinkler flow for 20 minutes at the design flow rate.

Secondary containment for hazardous materials in solid form is required for capacities of vessels exceeding 550 lbs. or aggregate capacities exceeding 10,000 lbs.

FUNNY HAZMAT RESPONSE

In May, I was asked to respond to a possible hazardous materials release in the North end of the city that was resulting in the deposition of a clear, sticky substance on vehicles that were parked on the street near several businesses.

After contacting the complainant and conducting a brief investigation of the incident, the culprit was found to be a dozen or so Jacaranda trees that were in bloom and emitting the sticky residue which was getting into the wind and finding quite a few vehicles.

The sticky substance could be either the excrement from the aphids, who love the Jacarandas or from the stems and leaves themselves.

HAZMAT QUESTIONS: Call (714) 536-5676

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